

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 21461 081946Z

62

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 NASA-04 NSF-04 OMB-01 MC-02 RSR-01

/131 W

----- 038366

P R 081750Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2416

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGNE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 21461

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, XT, TGEN

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS/ EUROPEAN SPANCE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

REF: A. PARIS 21319 B. 21411

DEPT PASS NASA

SCI FOR POLLACK; BASTEDO

SUMMARY: DE BOISGELIN, FONOFF, CONSIDERS ITALIANS CAN CONTRIBUTE
20PC TO SPACELAB AND 3-4PC TO L3S, BUT IS NOT SURE OF OUTCOME. IN
EVENT ITALIANS DO NOT CONTRIBUTE EXPECTED AMOUNTS, HE ANTICIPATES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 21461 081946Z

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILL SEEK TO MAKE UP DIFFERENCE. AS

REPORTED REFTEL A, FRANCE WILL SIGN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT BUT DATE UNCERTAIN. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY DE BOISGELIN, RESPONSIBLE FOR SPACE AFFAIRS IN FONOFF, PROVIDED SCICON, AUGUST 8, 1973, WITH FOLLOWING FRENCH VIEWS REGARDING CURRENT SPACE COOPERATION: HE FIRST SAID THAT MINISTER HANION OF BELGIUM DESERVES TREMENDOUS CREDIT FOR THE SUCCESSFUL ROLE HE PLAYED IN BRINGING THE VARIED EUROPEAN VIEWPOINTS TOGETHER, AND ADDED THAT MINISTER CHARBONNEL HAD CONTRIBUTED SEVERAL IDEAS.

2. THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM IS THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE ITALIAN CONTRIBUTION WHICH INITIALLY PROPOSED 20PC FOR SPACELAB AND NOTHING FOR THE L3S. THE FRENCH CONSIDER THAT THE ITALIANS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE 3 OR 4PC TO THE LATTER PROJECT: DE BOISGELIN WENT ON TO SAY THAT, BY HIS ESTIMATES, THE COMBINATION OF A 20PC CONTRIBUTION TO SPACELAB AND A 3 TO 4PC CONTRIBUTION TO L3S WOULD REPRESENT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TOTAL AS IF THE ITALIANS WERE TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR NORMAL 13-14PC TO EACH PROGRAM. HENCE THE REQUESTS ARE REASONABLE. HOWEVER, THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FINANCE MAY DECIDE THAT THE SPACE PROGRAMS ENVISAGED ARE BEYOND THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE ITALIAN BUDGET. THEREFORE,

MATTERS WILL REMAIN UNSETTLED UNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER. IN RESPONSE TO SCICON QUESTIONS, DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT IN THE EVENT THAT ITALIAN CONTRIBUTIONS WERE NOT AVAILABLE, THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A FUND-COLLECTING AMONG THE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. HE THOUGHT THE U.K. WOULD LIKELY NOT CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH A REQUEST.

3. DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT A NEW PATTERN OF EUROPEAN SPACE COOPERATION IS BEING TESTED WHERE A COUNTRY COULD LEAD A PROJECT WHICH IT PREFERENCES WHILE GETTING HELP OF THE OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS. THIS IS IN CONTRAST

TO THE PAST PARTICIPATIONS BASED ON GNP. THE NEW APPROACH IS NOT GOOD FOR EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY, BUT HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF INCREASING THE RESPONSIBILITY (AND CONTROL) BY ONE NATION FOR A GIVEN PROJECT. IT WILL TAKE FIVE OR SIX YEARS TO PROVE THE VALUE OF THIS APPROACH.

4. DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT HE WILL SIGN THE ESRO-EUROPEAN COUNTRY AGREEMENT ON AUGUST 10. THIS WILL PROVIDE THE AUTHORITY TO ESRO TO SIGN THE MOU WITH NASE WHICH HE UNDERSTANDS WILL MORE LIKELY ONLY BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 21461 081946Z

INITIALED. HE SAID THE ESRO-EUROPEAN AGREEMENT WILL BE CONDITIONAL UPON SATISFACTORY FINANCING BY MID-SEPTEMBER FOR THE SPACELAB, THE L3S, AND THE MAROTS.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT, DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT FRANCE WILL DEFINITELY SIGN, BUT THAT HE IS NOT CERTAIN, FOR BUREAUCRATIC REASONS, WHETHER HE CAN SECURE THE AUTHORIZA-

TIONS FROM THE PERTINENT MINISTERS NOW ON VACATION SO THAT HE CAN SIGN FOR FRANCE ON AUGUST 14. HE SAID THAT NO POLITICAL QUESTIONS ARE INVOLVED. THE SAME RESERVATIONS AS ABOVE REGARDING FINANCING OF ALL THREE PROJECTS WOULD APPLY TO THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT.

6. DE BOISGELIN BELIEVES THAT GERMANY AND SWEDEN WILL SIGN THE GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT ON THE 14TH. HE DOES NOT THINK THE U.K. WILL DO SO. THE ITALIANS WILL NOT SIGN AT THAT TIME. HE REMAINS UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE OTHER COUNTRIES AND CONCLUDES THAT THERE MAY BE A POOR SHOWING AT THE AUGUST 14 CEREMONY.

7. DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT THE FRENCH ARE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF THE BRUSSELS SPACE CONFERENCE; THEIR ONLY ANGUISH BEING THE ITALIAN DECISION. THE FRENCH HOPE THAT THE ITALIANS PROVIDE AT LEAST SOME INPUT TO THE L3S SINCE IT IS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT TO THE FRENCH THAT, IF POSSIBLE, ALL EUROPEAN NATIONS PARTICIPATE. HE REMARKED THAT IT IS INTERESTING THE DENMARK IS JOINING IN THE L3S. HE SAID THAT THE POSITION OF NORWAY WILL ONLY BE KNOWN IN SEPTEMBER, BUT SINCE ITS CONTRIBUTION IS SMALL IT CAN EASILY BE ABSORBED BY THE OTHERS.

8. IN FURTHER RESPONSE TO SCICON QUESTIONS, DE BOISGELIN SAID THAT THE FRENCH PLAN TO CONTACT THE ITALIANS, BUT HAVE NOT YET DONE SO TO DATE. THEY WOULD DO SO WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF URGING A 20PC CONTRIBUTION TO SAPCELAB AND A 3 OR 4PC CONTRIBUTION TO L3S. HE BELIEVES THAT GERMANY, BELGIUM, SWEDEN, FRANCE, AND PERHAPS THE U.K. TO A LESSER EXTENT, WILL SEEK TO IMPRESS UPON THE ITALIANS THE IMPORTANCE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION.
STONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS21461
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730851/aaaablbb.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 A. PARIS 21319 B. 21411
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH VIEWS/ EUROPEAN SPANACE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS
TAGS: TSPA, TGEN, XT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005